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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SACRED LITERATURE.

GENERAL NOTES.

The summer work of the Institute is now beginning to assume definite shape. To the list of ten Chautauqua assemblies to which instructors were sent last year it is probable that several will this year be added. At the following assemblies arrangements are practically made: Winfield, Kans.; Harrisonburg, Va.; Lake Madison, S. D.; Monteagle, Tenn.; Ottawa, Kans.; Lakeside, Ohio; Louisiana Chautauqua; Barnesville, Ohio; Winona, Ind.; Bay View, Mich.; Pertle Springs, Mo.; Rocky Mountain, Colo. In addition to these the Bible School at Chautauqua, N. Y., with its staff of six instructors, is conducted by the Institute. The home of this school will eventually be in the new Hall of the Christ which it is hoped may be built before the summer.

For this work of summer Bible teaching many of the members of the COUNCIL OF SEVENTY are placing themselves at the disposal of the Institute. No organization has at its command a larger or more efficient corps of workers in this field.

The following have already accepted membership in the COUNCIL :

New Testament Chamber.—Professor R. R. Lloyd, Pacific Theological Seminary, Oakland, Cal.; Professor Rush Rhees, Newton Theological Institution, Newton, Mass.; Professor W. F. Steele, University of Denver, Denver, Colo.; Dr. J. H. Ropes, Harvard University; Professor J. S. Riggs, Auburn Theological Seminary, Auburn N. Y.; Professor J. F. Riggs, New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, N. J.; Professor G. H. Gilbert, Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago.; Professor Shailer Mathews, University of Chicago; Professor E. D. Burton, University of Chicago; Mr. C. W. Votaw, University of Chicago; Professor C. F. Bradley, Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill.

Old Testament Chamber.—Professor F. K. Sanders, Yale University; Professor D. A. McClenahan, United Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Allegheny, Pa.; Professor E. L. Curtis, Yale University; Professor A. H. Huizinga, McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago; Professor Lincoln Hulley, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa.; Professor Charles Horswell, Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill.; Professor A. S. Carrier, McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago; Professor W. R. Harper, University of Chicago; Dr. H. L. Willett, University of Chicago; Professor F. B. Denio, Bangor Theological Seminary, Bangor, Maine.

General Chamber.—Professor Geo. B. Foster, University of Chicago ; Professor D. B. McDonald, Hartford, Theological Seminary, Hartford, Conn. ; Professor E. T. Harper, Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago ; Professor W. D. MacKenzie, Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago ; Professor A. C. Zenos, McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago ; Professor G. S. Goodspeed, University of Chicago ; Dr. J. H. Breasted, University of Chicago ; President G. S. Burroughs, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind. ; President C. J. Little, Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill. ; Dr. J. H. Barrows, University of Chicago.

The following has been adopted as the general platform of the Council ;

“The Council does not stand for any theory of interpretation or school of criticism or denomination ; but for a definite endeavor to promote the knowledge of the Word of God as interpreted in the best light of today. From this point of view also the contributions of other religious literatures are sought by the Council that through the study of these literatures the teachings of the Scriptures may be more clearly understood.

The Council is organized on the belief that the Bible is a unique revelation from God, and strives in a constructive spirit to investigate its teachings and to extend its influence among the people. While, therefore, a large liberty is allowed to the individual teacher, the position occupied by the Council is altogether evangelical.

The college prize examinations last year inaugurated will be again offered. The winners of the prizes in the examinations of 1895 were as follows :

First prize in Hebrew, Isaac Husik, University of Pennsylvania ; Second prize in Hebrew, Godlove C. Seibert, German Theological Seminary, Bloomfield, N. J. First prize in New Testament Greek, Edna White, University of N. B., Canada. Second prize in New Testament Greek, Clyde V. Fogle, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. First prize in the English Bible, Grace E. McGaw, Rockford College, Rockford, Ill. ; Second prize in English Bible H. Edwin Hawkes, Yale College. It is due to the winners of these prizes to say that the questions were such as would dignify any college examination. They were perhaps more difficult than the usual college standard. The judges were : Hebrew.—Professor Samuel Ives Curtiss, of the Chicago Theological Seminary, Professor Wm. Henry Green, of Princeton Theological Seminary, and Professor David G. Lyon, of Harvard University. New Testament Greek.—Professor Wm. Arnold Stevens, of the Rochester Theological Seminary, Professor Chas. F. Bradley, of Garrett Biblical Institute, and Professor J. S. Riggs, of Auburn Theological Seminary. English Bible.—President Geo. S. Burroughs of Wabash College, Professor F. K. Sanders, of Yale, and Professor W. W. Moore, of the Union Theological Seminary, Hampden Sidney, Va.

Sixty-three colleges engaged in the contest. The object of the examinations is fivefold :

(*a*) To induce college students who contemplate entering the ministry, to obtain a working knowledge of Hebrew and New Testament Greek, thereby saving much time for purely exegetical work in the Seminary.

(*b*) To induce colleges to add courses in Hebrew and New Testament Greek to their curricula, by creating a demand for such work from the students.

(*c*) To provide for all college students a special incentive for the study of the English Bible, (*a*) as an unique literature, (*b*) as the record of a unique history, (*c*) as a text-book of religious principles, (*d*) in relation to the influence which it has exerted in the history of the world.

(*d*) To test the work now being done in these lines in the colleges of the United States and Canada, and if possible to gain facts with which to refute the current impression concerning the ignorance of the college student on biblical subjects.

(*e*) If possible to secure data which will help to convince the vast number of colleges in which no adequate biblical instruction is offered, that it is important to add to their intellectual equipment the facilities for the best work in these lines.

Although full announcements of the examinations for 1896 cannot be made until next month, it may be said that the questions in Hebrew and New Testament Greek will be of the same grade as last year, viz., the first year in each language. In the English Bible two subjects will be offered: in the New Testament, the life and work of Paul, and in the Old Testament the Hebrew Psalter. The prizes are one hundred, and fifty dollars, first and second prizes respectively in each subject.

Preparations are making for the reading work of 1896-7. In the Guild the subject to be taken up is the "Foreshadowings of the Christ." A most attractive list of books on this subject will be presented. The outline club course will cover a study of the literature of the Bible in the light of the history of the centuries during which it was produced. These will be most attractive subjects both in themselves and because of their freshness to the average student.